



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Antonio PARENTE DUENA et al.

Serial No.: 09/913,671

Filed: September 24, 2001

For: MICRO-CAPSULES FOR THE SUSTAINED RELEASE OF DRUGS

Date: December 11, 2003

Group Art Unit: 1615

Examiner: M. Young

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DEC 22 2003  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900  
/189-162

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action mailed July 21, 2003 in the above-identified application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST**

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.